

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Engelhardt et al.

Continuation of

Serial No. 10/206,031

Filed: June 6, 2003

Title: **NOVEL PROCESS, CONSTRUCT AND CONJUGATE
FOR PRODUCING MULTIPLE NUCLEIC ACID
COPIES**

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Known

Examiner: Not Yet Known

Previous Group Art Unit: 1634

Prev. Ex'r: Arun K. Chakrabarti, Ph.D.

527 Madison Avenue (9th Floor)
New York, NY 10022-4304
November 19, 2003

FILED BY EXPRESS MAIL

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

(ACCOMPANYING CONTINUATION APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b))

Dear Sirs:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Enz-52(C2)

Engelhardt et al.

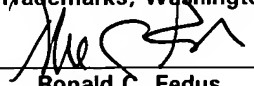
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

(Continuation of S.N. 10/206,031, filed June 6, 2003)

Filed: Herewith

Page 2 [Preliminary Amendment (Accompanying Continuation Application

Under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)) --- November 19, 2003]

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE	
"Express Mail" Label No.	<u>EV086339632US</u>
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I hereby certify that this paper and the attachments herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington DC 20231.	
 Ronald C. Fedus Reg. No. 32,567	<u>Nov 19 2003</u> Date

Engelhardt et al.

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Page 3 [Preliminary Amendment (Accompanying Continuation Application
Under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)) --- November 19, 2003]

PLEASE AMEND THIS APPLICATION AS FOLLOWS:

In The Title:

Change the title of the invention to:

-- *In vitro* Processes for Producing Multiple Copies of Primer Sequence-Free
Specific Nucleic Acid -- .

In The Claims:

Please cancel claim 1.

Please add new claims 91-103.

Claim 1 (Canceled Hereinabove)

Claims 2-90 (Canceled in Continuation Request)

91. (NEW) An *in vitro* process for producing more than one copy of a specific nucleic acid, said products being substantially free of any primer sequences, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a nucleic acid sample containing or suspected of containing the sequence of said specific nucleic acid;
- (b) contacting said sample with a mixture comprising:
 - (i) unmodified nucleic acid precursors,